

Overview of the Morris K. Udall Foundation

The Morris K. Udall Foundation's activities include an educational program that provides scholarships, fellowships and internships and funds the Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona. The Foundation also operates the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, which provides mediation, facilitation and related services to assist in resolving federal environmental conflicts. Further information regarding the Foundation and its programs can be found at www.udall.gov and www.ecr.gov.

The Foundation is an independent federal agency, based in Tucson, which was created by Congress to honor Morris K. Udall's 30 years of distinguished service in the U.S. House of Representatives (1961 to 1991). His career was distinguished by civility, integrity and consensus. Udall was a leader in many public policy areas, including natural resources and the environment, governmental reforms, and Native American issues. He chaired the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs from 1977 until his retirement in 1991. In 1976, he sought the Democratic nomination for President, finishing second to Jimmy Carter.

Education Programs

The Foundation's educational activities are supported by the income from a Trust Fund established by Congress, which was authorized at \$40 million. Through FY 2007, appropriations have totaled approximately \$37.6 million, including \$4 million in transfers to Native Nations Institute (more below). The educational activities include:

- **Morris K. Udall Scholars**

From 1996 through 2007, there have been 5,073 nominees competing for 916 Morris K. Udall Scholarships. Scholars are college juniors and seniors who intend to pursue careers related to the environment or who are Native Americans engaged in health care or tribal policy studies. They have come from almost 300 institutions and all 50 states. Through 2007, about \$4.6 million will have been awarded in scholarships.

- **Morris K. Udall Fellows**

Twenty-two Morris K. Udall Fellows have been awarded graduate fellowships of \$24,000 each through 2007.

- **Native American Congressional/White House Interns**

Since 1996, 138 Native Americans have been summer interns on Capitol Hill, in the Executive Office of the President and in selected agencies. The interns are generally college juniors or seniors or graduate students with an interest in public policy. The Foundation provides each intern with housing, per diem, and travel costs to Washington, D.C., plus a \$1,200 stipend upon successful completion of the program.

- **Parks in Focus**

This program, in partnership with the Boys and Girls Clubs, instills an appreciation for the natural environment in disadvantaged youth by combining photography and nature studies

while on trips to state and national parks. The middle-school students are led by environmental educators, park rangers and naturalists, and they are given cameras and photography lessons.

- **Native Nations Institute**

Native Nations Institute provides tribal leaders with executive and leadership training and policy advice necessary for effective tribal self-governance and economic growth. Through FY 2007, the Foundation will have transferred \$4 million from Trust Fund appropriations to Native Nations Institute, pursuant to Congressional authorization since FY 2001.

U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution

The U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution assists in resolving federal environmental disputes through mediation, facilitation and related services. The Institute received an appropriation of \$1.9 million for FY 2006 and 2007. The Institute also is authorized to collect fees for services from parties to environmental conflicts.

Since its inception in FY 1999, the Institute has been directly involved in hundreds of conflicts around the country, providing services such as assessment, mediation and facilitation. It has also been involved in numerous trainings, workshops, and referrals to private sector mediators. Many of the projects have national significance -- for example, the Grand Canyon overflight noise controversy; interagency disputes in the Everglades restoration project; high-profile issues related to the Federal Highway Administration's environmental streamlining program; recreational shooting on public lands; endangered species and military training issues on the Barry M. Goldwater Range; water management issues in the Missouri River Basin; and stakeholder conflicts over timber sales, forest restoration efforts, grazing and environmental compliance on national forest lands.